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Thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
10-16 April 1992

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-seventh session of the Commission/ eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
20-24 April 1992

PROPOSALS FOR UPDATING THE 1992-1993 PROGRAMME OF WORK

1. The Economic Commission for Africa proposed a programme of work for 1992-1993 and presented it to the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers and the twelfth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole for endorsement (E/ECA/CM.17/25/Rev.1). After the endorsement of this legislative body, the proposal was then submitted to the legislative machinery of the General Assembly for approval through the United Nations Secretariat, as is customary (A/46/6/Rev.1, Supplement No. 6). Certain editorial variations have been observed between documents E/ECA/CM.17/25/Rev.1 and A/46/6/Rev.1, which have implications for programme performance. These are:

A. ACTIVITIES ENDORSED BY THE ECA CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS BUT OMITTED IN A/46/6/REV.1

1. Conference and library services

(a) Follow-up Committees of the MULPOCs based in Tangier, Lusaka, Gisenyi, Niamey, Yaounde;

(b) Southern Africa Labour Commission and the Subregional Conference on Economic Cooperation and Integration in Eastern and Southern Africa for the Lusaka-based MULPOC;

(c) Follow-up Evaluation Committee of the Niamey-based MULPOC, Association of West African Intergovernmental Organizations, Sectoral Committees (6) of the Association of West African IGOs, Follow-up/Evaluation Committee of the Association of IGOs, all in the Niamey-based MULPOC;

(d) Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Science and Technology for Development (1993); and

(e) Policy organ number (iv) namely "Intergovernmental Meeting of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers" has been listed by error.

Under policy-making organs, number (xx), "the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (1992, 1993)" has replaced "the seventh and eighth meetings of the Follow-up Committee of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization (1992, 1993)".

2. Development issues and policies in the ECA region

Operational activities

Activities under group training will be financed by regular budget resources which have already been allocated and not extrabudgetary resources as indicated in A/46/6/Rev.1.

Also the first sentence under group training, should read: "seven subregional and regional/seminars and workshops on formal and non-formal education..."

3. Economic cooperation and integration in Africa

Non-recurrent publications

Dissemination of research results of the Institut de recherche agronomique et zootechnique (IRAZ) within the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL).

4. Natural resources

Advisory services

Technical assistance and support to member States and/or intergovernmental organizations on promotion of cooperation in water resources development at national, subregional and regional levels.

5. Population

Published materials

(a) Recurrent publications:

Demographic Handbook for Africa (one issue). The programme budget as approved by the General Assembly showed two issues instead of one issue as indicated in the original submission. Resources requested and granted are sufficient for one issue only during the biennium.

6. Agriculture and rural development

Published materials

(a) Recurrent publications

(i) Evaluation and monitoring of the impact of the 1992 European economic integration on African agriculture (two in 1992; one in 1993);

(ii) Improvement of agricultural development policies through comparative analysis of the structural advantages of agricultural export-oriented products of Africa and South-East Asia (one in 1992; one in 1993);

(iii) Appraisal monitoring and evaluation of the impact of biotechnology to agricultural development (two in 1992; two in 1993); one report to be submitted to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

B. ACTIVITIES OF COLLABORATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHERS IN THE ECA REGION

2. The 1992-1993 programme budget was elaborated to focus on intensifying actions for facilitating concerted efforts for sustained economic development in Africa. Particular emphasis was put on activities that would strengthen economic cooperation among the countries of the region as a whole. In the course of implementing the programme, ECA planned to collaborate with relevant specialized agencies and the United Nations programmes including subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council. Similarly, it planned to maintain close collaboration and coordination with intergovernmental organizations of the region on issues related to its programme of work. Several activities related to the promotion of regional cooperation and integration were omitted from A/46/5/Rev.1. For eight subprogrammes, omitted activities could be implemented within the limits of the allocated resources. These are:

1. Public administration and fiscal affairs

Coordination and support services to the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), the Association of African Tax Administrators (AATA), the African Centre for Administrative Training and Research Development (CAFRAD), the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM), and the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

2. Advancement of women

Contribution to meetings of regional and subregional women's organizations in Africa.

3. Human settlements

Coordination and collaboration work with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations outside the United Nations as well as financial institutions.

4. Trade development and cooperation

Assistance to subregional and regional institutions on the establishment of the African Common Market; assistance to African States during multilateral negotiations within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the ACP-EEC Lome Convention, the Group of 77; collaboration with PRODEC and the International Trade Center; servicing of the sixth All-Africa Trade Fair; support to the Standing Committee on Trade of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade for the implementation of the Strategies for Revitalization, Recovery and Growth of Africa's Trade in the 1990s and Beyond; Permanent Steering Committee of the OAU on development in the field of interest to Africa; and intergovernmental organizations on strengthening their capabilities.

5. Natural resources

Support in the servicing of the African Space Conference; and ad hoc meetings of subregional intergovernmental organizations to promote subregional cooperation for integrated river basins development such as the Undugu Group.

6. Science and technology for development

Technical support to the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT), the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), the African Rehabilitation Institute for Disabled Persons (ARIPO), and the MULPOCs (ECA-sponsored institutions) in the implementation of operational projects; inputs on substantive issues of regional concern to the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development (IGCSTD), UNCTAD and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); and support to the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN).

7. Population

Liaison activities with the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), the Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) and other subregional institutions in the development and implementation of programmes on the African population network.

8. Transport and communications

Support to the MULPOCs in the implementation of activities in the transport and telecommunications sector; reports to and participation at the MULPOC meetings.

3. The ECA Conference of Ministers may wish to consider the following course of action:

(a) In the case of outputs omitted from A/46/6/Rev.1 and having no additional financial implications, the Conference may direct the secretariat to implement them as activities additional to those endorsed by the General Assembly;

(b) In the case of outputs substituted in A/46/6/Rev.1 for related outputs in E/ECA/CM.17/25/Rev.1, the Conference may direct the secretariat to reformulate the forms, so that the latter may be delivered within existing resources.

4. The endorsement of the Conference for the retention of these items in the ECA's biennial work programme is respectfully requested.

C. ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES BY LEGISLATION

5. The forty-sixth session of the General Assembly passed a resolution (46/458) on the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa which entrusted the following activities to the Economic Commission for Africa:

(a) Four subregional meetings on the identification of subregional and country priorities in the context of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

(b) A workshop for industrial and transport experts for the purpose of coordination of activities of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa to be organized in 1992.

6. The Conference is respectfully requested to endorse the inclusion of these activities in the 1992-1993 programme of work for the purposes of adequate reporting.